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Economic and Social Council

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Organizational session for 1992
20 January and 4-7 February 1992
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Election of the Bureau.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Basic programme of work of the Council.

4. Establishment of a commission on crime prevention and criminal justice.

5. Elections and appointments to subsidiary bodies of the Council, and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions.

Annotations

Item 1. Election of the Bureau

1. Rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Council provides that each year, at the commencement of its first meeting, the Council shall elect a President and four Vice-Presidents from among the representatives of its members. The membership of the Council in 1992 is given in the annex below. According to the rotation of the office of President among the regional groups, the President for 1992 should be the representative of an Eastern European State. The four Vice-Presidents of the Council shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution from the other four regional groups.

2. The President and the Vice-Presidents shall constitute the Bureau. The Council, upon the recommendation of the President, shall decide on the special responsibilities of each Vice-President.

3. Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77, a meeting of the Council will be convened on 20 January 1992 for the election of the Bureau.

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

4. Rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Council provides that, at the beginning of each session, after the selection of the Bureau when required under rule 18, the Council shall adopt the agenda for the session. The present provisional agenda has been prepared in conformity with the relevant legislative decisions.

5. In addition to adopting the agenda, the Council may wish to consider under this item the questions set out below.

Rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

6. In the light of the adoption of General Assembly resolution 45/264 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, the Council will need to revise its rules of procedure. The Bureau of the Council, with the assistance of the Secretariat, may wish to make proposals to the Council in this regard.

Consultations with the Committee on Conferences in regard to the calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic and social fields

7. In paragraph 5 of its resolution 46/190, the General Assembly invited the Council to consider formalizing its procedures with regard to inter-sessional departures from the approved calendar of conferences and meetings by granting authority to the Committee on Conferences to act on behalf of the Council when the Council is not in session and consulting the Committee on Conferences

whenever the Council itself is seized with such requests. The Council may wish to consider how to respond to the invitation of the Assembly.

Dates for the fifteenth session of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination

8. The fifteenth session of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination is scheduled to be convened at Headquarters in the second half of 1993. The Working Group has requested that the session be held from 29 June to 1 July 1992.

Dates and venue of the sixteenth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

9. At its organizational session for 1991, the Council agreed to postpone for one year the sixteenth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which was to have been held at Baghdad for one week in April/May 1991 (decision 1991/207). The Secretariat has received a communication in which it is indicated that the Government of Bahrain has offered to host the session from 27 to 30 April 1992. In accordance with section I, paragraph 4 (f), of General Assembly resolution 40/243, the Council is required to approve the venue and dates of the session. The Government of Bahrain has been informed that, in accordance with section I, paragraph 5, of Assembly resolution 40/243, its agreement to defray the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved is required. The Council will be informed of the acceptance of the Government.

Meeting of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

10. The Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs is scheduled to meet at Vienna on 24 and 25 February 1992. The Subcommission has requested that the meeting be cancelled.

Item 3. Basic programme of work of the Council

11. In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure of the Council, the Council shall draw up, at its organizational session, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, its basic programme of work.

12. The Council will have before it the proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1992 and 1993 prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Council and of the General Assembly.

13. Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Council, the President, prior to the organizational session, and with the cooperation of the other members of the Bureau, will arrange for consultations with members of the Council on the draft programme of work and provisional agenda prepared by the Secretary-General and on the allocation of agenda items and make proposals thereon for consideration by the Council.

Documentation

Proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1992 and 1993 (E/1992/1 and Add.1)

Proposals by the Bureau of the Council on the proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1992 and 1993

Item 4. Establishment of a commission on crime prevention and criminal justice

14. By its resolution 46/152, the General Assembly:

"Decide[d] to recommend that a commission on crime prevention and criminal justice be established as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, which would hold its inaugural meeting during 1992, and recommend[ed] that the meeting of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control scheduled for February 1992 be cancelled and that the funds necessary for the work of the new commission be made available within the budget for the biennium 1992-1993."

15. The Assembly also requested the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session for 1992:

"(a) To dissolve the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control;

"(b) To establish the commission on crime prevention and criminal justice as a new functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the statement of principles and programme of action;

"(c) To endorse the role and functions of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the statement of principles and programme of action."

16. By the same resolution, the Assembly decided "that the present members of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control should be invited to participate during the first two days of the inaugural session of the new commission, at the expense of their respective Governments, except in the case of Committee members from the least developed countries, in order to facilitate an orderly transition".

17. Should the Council decide to establish a functional commission on crime prevention and criminal justice, it would be called upon to adopt the "Statement of Principles and Programme of Action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme", contained in the annex to resolution 46/152.

Item 5. Elections and appointments to subsidiary bodies of the Council, and confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions

Elections

Commission on crime prevention and criminal justice (E/1992/5)

18. Should the Council decide, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/152, to establish a commission on crime prevention and criminal justice, it will be called upon to elect the members of the commission at its organizational session for 1992. In the statement of Principles and Programme of Action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, contained in the annex to resolution 46/152, it is stated that:

> "The commission shall consist of forty Member States of the United Nations, elected by the Economic and Social Council on the basis of the principle of equitable geogrpahical distribution. Its members shall serve for a term of three years, except that the terms of one half of the first elected members, whose names shall be chosen by lot, shall expire after two years. Each Member State shall make every effort to ensure that its delegation includes experts and senior officials with special training and practical experience in crime prevention and criminal justice, preferably with policy responsibility in the field. Provisions should be made in the regular budget of the United Nations to defray the travel costs of the representatives of the least developed countries that are members of the Commission.
>
> "It is recommended that in order to commence the work of the commission as soon as possible, the geographical distribution of the commission should be as follows: African States (12), Asian States (9), Latin American and Caribbean States (8), Western European and other States (7), Eastern European States (4). The size and geographical distribution of the commission may be reviewed two years after the first session of the commission."

Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1992/L.1)

19. The Council, by its resolution 1991/49, decided to increase the membership of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs from 40 to 53, the 13 new seats to be distributed among the regional groups as follows:

(a) Four seats for African States;

(b) Three seats for Asian States;

(c) One seat for Eastern European States;

(d) Three seats for Latin American and Caribbean States;

(e) One seat for Western European and other States;

(f) One seat to rotate between the Asian States and the Latin American and Caribbean States every four years.

20. The Council also decided to fill the 13 new seats resulting from the increase in the membership of the Commission at its organizational session for 1992.

21. In addition, the Council will be called upon to hold elections, postponed from previous sessions, to the following bodies:

Commission on Transnational Corporations (E/1992/L.6)

(a) From Latin American and Caribbean States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993;

(b) From Western European and other States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993.

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

(a) From Asian States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993;

(b) From Latin American and Caribbean States: two members, one for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1994 and one for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993.

Confirmations

22. The Secretary-General will submit for confirmation by the Council the names of persons nominated to serve as representatives on the functional commissions of the Council since the organizational session for 1991 (E/1992/3 and addenda). Delegations are also requested to submit to the Secretariat for confirmation the names and curricula vitae of the persons they would nominate to serve as representatives on the newly formed commission on crime prevention and criminal justice, in the event that it is established by the Council pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46/152.

Annex

MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL FOR 1992

	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	1992
Angola	1994
Argentina	1993
Australia	1994
Austria	1993
Bahrain	1992
Bangladesh	1994
Belarus	1994
Belgium	1994
Benin	1994
Botswana	1993
Brazil	1994
Bulgaria	1992
Burkina Faso	1992
Canada	1992
Chile	1993
China	1992
Colombia	1994
Ecuador	1992
Ethiopia	1994
Finland	1992
France	1993
Germany	1993
Guinea	1993
India	1994
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1992
Italy	1994
Jamaica	1992
Japan	1993
Kuwait	1994
Madagascar	1994
Malaysia	1993
Mexico	1992
Morocco	1993
Pakistan	1992
Peru	1993
Philippines	1994
Poland	1994
Romania	1992
Russian Federation	1992
Rwanda	1992
Somalia	1993
Spain	1993
Suriname	1994
Swaziland	1994
Sweden	1992
Syrian Arab Republic	1993
Togo	1993
Trinidad and Tobago	1993
Turkey	1993
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1992
United States of America	1994
Yugoslavia	1993
Zaire	1992